

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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R 301134Z JUN 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0944
INFO AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 16136

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR EG AO
SUBJECT: VISIT OF ANGOLAN JUSTICE MINISTER

1. LOCAL MEDIA REPORTED JUNE 29 THAT ANGOLAN MINISTER OF JUSTICE DIOGENES DE ASSIS BOAVIDA CALLED ON EGYPTIAN FONMIN KAMEL PREVIOUS DAY TO DELIVER LETTER FROM PRESIDENT NETO TO SADAT.

2. MFA AFRICAN DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR AHMED SIDQI, WHO ATTENDED BOAVIDA-KAMEL MEETING, COMMENTED TO EMBOFFS JUNE 29 THAT BOAVIDA VISIT HAD PROVIDED USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR EGYPTIANS TO STRESS DEEP GOE CONCERN OVER
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SOVIET AND CUBAN ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT AFRICA. ALTHOUGH KAMEL UNDERLINED EGYPTIAN SUPPORT FOR ANGOLA'S CONFRONTATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA OVER NAMIBIA, HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT "FOREIGN ELEMENTS" (I.E., CUBANS) ONLY COMPLICATE BILATERAL AFRICAN MATTERS SUCH AS ZAIRE-ANGOLA PROBLEM.

3. BOAVIDA INSISTED TO EGYPTIANS THAT ANGOLA HAD HAD NO PART IN PREPARATION OR EXECUTION OF INVASION OF SHABA BY KATANGAN EX-GENDARMES. BOAVIDA PRESENTED ANGOLAN VIEW THAT SHABA INCURSION IN FACT VERY ILL-TIMED FROM POINT OF ANGOLAN INTERESTS, AS WORLD ATTENTION AND CONDEMNATION WAS DIVERTED FROM SOUTH AFRICAN INCURSIONS INTO SOUTHERN ANGOLA IN PURSUIT OF SWAPO GUERRILLAS. IN WAKE OF SHABA INCURSION, VIRTUALLY ENTIRE WORLD FORGOT ABOUT ANGOLA'S PROBLEMS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. BOAVIDA ALSO RAISED ANGOLAN CONCERNS WITH FNLA INCURSIONS INTO ANGOLA SUPPORTED BY ZAIRE.

4. IN SIDQI VIEW, MOST INTERESTING BOAVIDA COMMENT WAS THAT ANGOLA PREPARED IN FUTURE TO GUARANTEE THAT KATANGAN EX-MERCENARIES DO NOT USE ANGOLAN TERRITORY TO ATTACK ZAIRE PROVIDED THAT ZAIRE WOULD MAKE SIMILAR UNDERTAKING TO PREVENT FNLA OPERATION INTO ANGOLA FROM ZAIRE'S TERRITORY. SIDQI INTIMATED THAT SPECIFICS OF THIS ANGOLAN PROPOSAL NOT DISCUSSED WITH BOAVIDA, BUT THAT GOE WILL PASS WORD ALONG TO ZAIRIAN FRIENDS, EITHER IN CAIRO OR AT KHARTOUM SUMMIT. EILTS

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